

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 02286 232145Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-02

EUR-12 /069 W

----- 093537

R 231751Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1805

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRIDGETOWN 2286

E. O. 11652: XGDS 1-4 (IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE)

TAGS: MARR, AC

SUBJ: ANTIGUA BASE NEGOTIATIONS

REFS: (A) STATE 285101;#(B) PORTER-PIERCE TELECON;

(C) BRIDGETOWN A-082, (ULY 31, 1975)

1. ANTIGUAN GOVT DEBT, ACCORDING TO A SOURCE IN THE BARBADOS-BASED BRITISH DEVELOPMENT DIVISION, TOTALED APPROXIMATELY EC DOLLARS 80 MILLIONS AT THE END OF 1975, 39 MILLION OWED DIRECTLY BY THE GOA, 41 MILLION BY QUASI-GOVERNMENT STATUTORY BOARDS. AT THE THEN PREVAILING EXCHANGE RATE, THE TOTAL DEBT WAS US\$33.3 MILLION, OR ROUGHLY US\$476 PER CAPITA. ALTHOUGH THE BRITISH LACK MORE RECENT DATA, THEY ESTIMATE THE ANTIGUAN GOVT DEBT INCREASED ABOUT EC\$10 MILLION DURING 1976 TO DATE, APPROX US\$3.7 MILLION AT THE PRESENT 2.70/1.00 EXCHANGE RATE. ARECENT REPORT PREPARED FOR THE CANADIAN GOVT SETS GOA (INCLUDING THE STATUTORY BOARDS) "NET LIABILITIES" AT EC\$78 MILLION. FOR NON-STATUTORY BOARD DEBT THE REPORT DIFFERENTIATES BETWEEN EC\$18 MILLION LONG TERM AND EC\$26 MILLION "OUTSTANDING IMMEDIATE LIABILITIES." ALSO MENTIONED IS FACT GOA IS QUARANTOR FOR EC\$36 MILLION IN ADDITIONAL DEBT. (THE REPORT CONCLUDES "FOR ALL PRACTICAL PURPOSES THE ANTIGUAN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BRIDGE 02286 232145Z

GOVERNMENT IS BANKRUPT.") FOR EXACT AMOUNT GOA OWES EXIM,

PLEASE CHECK WITH EXIM ITSELF.

2. NOTE: BOTH BRITISH AND CANADIAN SOURCES REQUIRE THAT THEIR GOVTS IN NO WAY BE IDENTIFIED TO THE ANTIGUANS AS PROVIDING THIS INFORMATION. IN ADDITION THE CANADIAN REPORT WAS SHOWN TO US WITHOUT THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE OFFICER'S SUPERIOR.

3. NAVAL FACILITY CONTRIBUTION TO ANTIGUAN ECONOMY. ACCORDING TO AN EMBASSY AIRGRAM ( 75 A-082), THE NAVFAC REPRESENTED AN APPROXIMATE US\$1 MILLION ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE ANTIGUAN ECONOMY. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE FIGURE HAS NOT CHANGED SIGNIFICANTLY DURING THE PAST YEAR. (THIS ASSUMES ANTIGUAN PRICE LEVELS HAVE RISEN TO COUNTERACT THE EFFECT OF THE DEVALUATION OF THE EC DOLLAR.)

4. BIO DATA ON THE ANTIGUAN PARTICIPANTS TO FOLLOW.  
BRITTON

NOTE BY OCT: #REFTEL APPARENTLY INCORRECT.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY BASES, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 NOV 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976BRIDGE02286  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** ALSO X1  
**Executive Order:** X4  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760436-0488  
**From:** BRIDGETOWN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761120/aaaaaqli.tel  
**Line Count:** 80  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 285101, 76 PORT MORESBY 9, 76 BRIDGETOWN A-82  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <01 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 SEP 2004 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ANTIGUA BASE NEGOTIATIONS  
**TAGS:** MARR, AC, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006